

Congressman Mike McIntyre's Work to Honor Our Nation's Veterans

Dear Friend,

Long ago, we made a promise to this great nation's servicemen and women – those who have dedicated their lives to protecting and ensuring our freedom - that in return for their sacrifices we would provide them the care they so clearly need and deserve. As a member of the U.S. House Armed Services Committee and a strong supporter of our military, veterans, and military retirees, I am committed to fulfilling that promise. Listed below are some of the efforts I've been making to improve the care we provide for our veterans.



Mike McIntyre
Member of Congress

- **The Veterans Outreach Improvement Act of 2007, H.R. 67** – legislation Congressman McIntyre introduced to increase and coordinate outreach activities to make sure veterans, spouses, and surviving spouses are aware of the benefits they are eligible to receive through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). H.R. 67 would specifically target outreach to areas with large and growing veteran populations, such as southeastern North Carolina. This bill passed the U.S. House of Representatives on May 23, 2007, by a **unanimous vote of 421-0**.
- **The Military Construction and VA Appropriations bill** - legislation which passed the U.S. House of Representatives on June 15, 2007, with the support of Congressman McIntyre. This bill provides the **largest single funding increase in the 77-year history of the Department of Veterans Affairs**.
- **The U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act of 2007, H.R. 2206** - important legislation which appropriates health care funding for veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. This bill provides **\$3.1 billion** for the Base Realignment and Closure Account. H.R. 2206 was signed into law on May 25, 2007.
- **The Wounded Warrior Assistance Act of 2007** – a measure that Congressman McIntyre co-sponsored and which was passed unanimously by the U.S. House on March 28, 2007, in rapid response to the troubling reports on the conditions at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.
- **The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008**, - this legislation includes provisions that **will prevent the Pentagon from increasing TRICARE fees**. Congressman McIntyre supported this important legislation which passed the U.S. House of Representatives on May 17, 2007.
- **The Honor Our Commitment to Veterans Act** – a measure that Congressman McIntyre co-sponsored which would lift the freeze on Priority 8 veterans and allow all our veterans to receive the care they deserve at the VA.
- **The Benefit Rating Acceleration for Veteran Entitlements (BRAVE) Act of 2007** – another measure that Congressman McIntyre has co-sponsored which would permit veterans who have received a 100% disability determination from the VA to use that same determination when applying for Social Security disability benefits.
- **The Concurrent Receipt Bill** – a measure which Congressman McIntyre has continually co-sponsored which would provide full retirement and disability pay to all disabled military retirees.

- **The Combat-Related Special Compensation Act** – a measure that Congressman McIntyre has co-sponsored which would extend combat-related special compensation pay to combat-disabled veterans who were medically retired before they could complete 20 years of service.
- **Military widows deserve a consistent Survivor Benefit Plan**, and one that is not filled with large reduction provisions. That is why Congressman McIntyre is a co-sponsor of a bill, H.R. 1927, which would repeal the current offset between SBP and DIC payments.
- **The Joshua Omvig Veterans Suicide Prevention Act** – this measure which Congressman McIntyre has co-sponsored would provide outreach, education, and training to VA staff and veterans in order to ensure that our veterans are receiving the mental health care they need and deserve. It passed the U.S. House on March 21, 2007.

<p align="center">Additional Legislation Which Congressman McIntyre Supported And The U.S. House Has Passed to Help Our Veterans</p>

- **The Traumatic Brain Injury Health Enhancement and Long-Term Support Act of 2007**- this measure would ensure that all veterans are properly screened for Traumatic Brain Injury and receive appropriate treatment.
- **The Returning Servicemember VA Healthcare Insurance Act** – this measure would extend the term of free health care from two years to five years for service members with combat service during or after the 1991 Gulf War, so that mental health conditions that may not be immediately diagnosed, such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, are adequately treated.
- **The Chiropractic Care Available to All Veterans Act** - this measure would require that chiropractic care and services be provided to veterans at all VA medical centers.
- **The Veterans' Health Care Improvement Act** – this measure would create a transportation grant program for rural veterans, help the VA address mental health and readjustment needs, and support low-income veterans fighting homelessness.
- **A resolution which encourages public participation in a nationwide campaign called the Veterans History Project**, a program sponsored by the Library of Congress that collects and preserves the stories of the men and women who have served our nation in times of war and conflict.
- **Small Business Contracting Program Improvements Act** – this measure would place veteran small businesses at the top of the list for receiving federal contracts.

If you need further information on any of these measures and/or other Veterans Affairs issues, please do not hesitate to contact Congressman McIntyre at (202) 225-2731.